



워싱턴지구한인연합회  
The Korean American Association of Washington Metropolitan Area

7004-L Little River Tnpk., Annandale, Virginia 22003

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QA

July 6, 1995

President - KAAW  
Daniel Byung K. Choi

(BY HAND-DELIVERY)

OST-95-234-20

Secretary General  
Jac Hyung, Lee

Ms. Myrna F. Adams  
Chief, Docket Section  
Documentary Services Division  
Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 4107  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Treasurer  
Keum Joo, Park

Re: Docket 50417/Application of Korean Air Lines for an Exemption

Dear Ms. Adams:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Korean-American Association of Washington Metropolitan Area to show our support for the Korean Air Lines' Application to Exemption to begin direct air service between Seoul Kimpo National Airport and Washington Dulles International Airport.

Our organization represents approximately 80,000 Korean-American immigrants in and around the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Throughout its 26 years of existence, the Association has been actively supporting the programs to improve the quality of life for the Korean-American immigrants in this area. Further, as the voice for Korean-American immigrants, we have been in constant communication with local, state and federal governments. As recently as March 7, 1995, we have formed a task force for protection of immigrants' rights upon receipt of news that Congress is considering a bill that denies the legal immigrants the public assistance benefits and been actively lobbying the Congress.

It is an established fact that the Washington-Seoul passenger market is one of the largest markets in the mainland U.S.. The Washington region has the third largest Korean population in the United States. Yet, despite these facts, there is currently no direct air service between Korea and Washington. The direct air service, if established, will have a substantial impact on investment and tourism development in the Washington region. USTTA estimates South Korean visitors to the United States will grow 40% between 1995 and 1997. The proposed service will provide "Capital to Capital" service, linking Seoul and Washington, D.C.. All of these would definitely benefit the Korean-American community here. Moreover, the benefits derived from the direct air service would not be limited to the Korean-Americans in this region, but reach the other Korean-American communities in the Southeastern part of United States.



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Considering that obtaining direct air services to Korea has been a long term goal of this region, we therefore strongly recommend the Department of Transportation to approve Korean Air Lines' application as soon as possible.

Sincerely Yours,

Daniel B. Choi

DBC/skp: